PITIFULL RELATION
OF THE (29)
KING'S PRISON
KEEPER AT OXFORD.

[illegible] most transcendent cruelties, threatnings, [illegible]

[illegible], who with many [illegible] assembled in *Parliament*, and were [illegible] in *Oxford* six Moneths, being further confirmed by Captaine *Wiogate* in the *Commons* House, hee being Member of the said House, and some time prisoner in *Oxford*, the space of nine Moneths.

Together, with the Copy of a Letter from a Gentleman of qualitie, confirming the former particulars.

Also the Copy of a Pitition and Articles exhibited to the King, His Councell of Warre against *Smith*.

Likewise a Letter to the Speaker, subscibed with three score and ten Prisoners hands.

Whereunto is added the unsufferable cruelties, exercised upon the *Cirencester* men, in their passage to *Oxford*: and at *Oxford*, in the Castle and *Bridewell*, when they were taken.

Written by Edm. Chillenden, *who was prisoner there 6. Moneths.*

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A TRVE

RELATION

Of the transcendent Cruelties, and base inhumane practises of Captaine William Smith, *Provost Marshall, Generall of the Kings Army, extended and exercised on the Parliament Prisoners in the Castle at* Oxford.

VPon the fifth of *December*, 1642. I was travelling upon the Road about my lawfull occasions, and in my journey towards *Newburie*, betweene *Henly* and *Reading*; I met with one whose name was (as after I was informed) *Whitehead*, and falling into discourse, asked him the best and readiest way towards *Newbury*, which hee certified mee was through *Reading*. But I answered him, I was loath to goe that way, because of the Garison, and for fear of giving offence, he replied to me, that if I pleased to go that way, he would do me so much favour as to have me through *Reading* without any let or stay, I giving credit to him, went with him into *Reading*, and set up my horse at the *Beare*, where wee supped together, and did Inne all night; on the morrow early in the morning (the aforesaid) *whitehead*, came to my Chamber and certified mee, I must goe before the Governour, which was Sir *Arther Aston* (a ranke papist as, I am informed,) beeing come thither, there was also Colonell *Feelding*, which knew me to be a *Londoner*, and takes mee by the hand, and sweares he was very glad he had met with mee, and so certifies

the Governour, that I was as arrant a Round-headed-Rogue and Traitour as any was in *England*, and one that hath seven hundreth men to command at any time to aide the Parliament. With that the Governour without any further examination, swore at mee bitterly, and cals mee damned Rogue and Traitour, and with that strooke mee with his Cane on the head, and broke it verie sorely, and swore like a mad man, that hee would presently hang me; and with a Guard of Musquetiers did send me to the gallowes, where I stood some quarter of an houre, expecting death: But such was Gods goodnesse towards mee, that I was conveyed from thence to prison, whither came the aforesaid *White-head*, and in the name of the Governour tooke away my Moneyes: On the next Lords day I was conveyed to *Wallingford*, and the Wednesday following to *Abington*, I being brought before the Governour, Lieutenant Colonell *Sherly*, there being divers Cavaliers in his companie, and one whose name was *Smith*, that had the Watch that day, hee would needs have mee to say the Lords Prayer over to him, which I refused: Yet to give him satisfaction, I told him, If hee pleased to lend mee a Bible, I would read the Chapter over where that was, but that would not content him, he swore he would lay me necke and heels in irons, which to prevent, I addressed to the Governour, and said, Sir, I conceive I am your prisoner, and this Gentleman hath nothing to doe with mee, and if it bee your pleasure to put mee in irons, I am content. With that the Governour said, You come without irons to mee, and without you all goe away: but *Smith* swore I should not: They swore so long, that they fell to blowes, and by this difference by Gods providence I received mercie from the Governour. So the next day being Thursday, I was conveyed to *Oxford* Castle. But to leave my particular sufferings, and come to give you a relation of others, I shall begin, with a relation of the usuage of the prisoners taken at *Malborough* (in the County of *Wilts*) by the Cavaliers in their passage to *Oxford*.

This cariage of *Ashton* and *Feilding* is not to be paralleld in *Turkie* or any part of the World.

A very moderate civil Gentleman.

This is not *Smith* the Marshall, but a Captain of a foot Campany

Who offerded me a good supper and bed at the provose Marshals quarter that night,

After they had surprized the Towne, and had taken 180. odde prisoners, they drove many of them through the waters, and the first night thrust them all up into a nastie stinking Stable amongst horses, where was one horse dead, there they continued till the next morning, and had no food allowed them, and

so

ſo drove them like Rogues and theeves, tied together by the armes in the horſe way up to the knees in mire and dirt, and allowed no food to them, nor ſuffered no friend to come at them: for a man comming to ſee ſome of them was carried away to *Oxon* to priſon with them, and foure dayes time, as they were drove from *Malbrough* to *Oxford*, were allowed no food but onely at *Lamburne*, a Gentleman did provide for them: but they would ſcarce give time to receive it, and that was all the ſuſtenance they had in all their paſſage, not ſo much as water, for ſome of them beeing drie, would faine have drunke of the water, in the high way; but they would not ſuffer them, nay, they ſtrok many of them over the heads with their Canes for ſtooping to take a piece of Ice to hold in their mouths to quench their violent thirſt.

On Friday they came to *Oxford*, and as they paſſed through the ſtreets towards the Caſtle, there was much rejoycing by the Inhabitants, Scollers, and Souldiers, calling them Roundheaded Rogue and Traytors, and ſtriking ſome of them. One paſſage is worthy obſervation, that the Lord *George Digby* and Commiſſary *Wilmot* took maſter *John Frankling*, Member of the Houſe of Commons, and laid him away from all the reſt of the Priſoners, to a Tree, and there ſwore deeply they would hang him like a damded Rogue and Traytor; if hee would not confeſſe where his Money was. And this is a ſhort Relation of thoſe mens ſufferings before they came into the Caſtle.

By this you may ſee how the Lord Digbie and the now Lord Wilmot love the Houſe of Commons

Now you ſhall know our uſuage after we were in the Caſtle under Captaine *William Smith*, the firſt night we were put up into the Tower, 180. od the place being ſo little that we were forced to lie one upon another, and were allowed one penny bread a peace, and a Can of ſmall Beere (Water was better) and ſo for the beſt part of thirteene nay, ſome of us twentie three weeks; were allowed no more, Some of us have many tymes been two dayes without any thing at all, ſo that by this cruelty, and living on the boards, many fell ſick and very weak in the body, almoſt all of us like to periſh and end our daves by the bloody flux, and one of us was ſtarved to death; and as this man was drawing on towards his end, Marſhall *Smith* was ſollicited in all the faire wayes that poſsible could bee, by the Gentlemen and the Captaines there in priſon, that hee would ſuffer ſome thing to bee

This is not *Smith* the Fencer his name is *Thomas Smith*.

provided for the poore man, but such was his crueltie, that he would not, and so the man died.

He saies it was a base protistation, onely framed by a company of rebels and Traytors to take away the Kings Crown & life,

Some few dayes after, hee called us to take the Protestation, (which he stylled the Kings) we desired to heare it read over to us, which when we had heard it, wee refused it, as beeing against our consciences, telling him wee had taken one alreadie, which was the Kings and the Parliaments, he swore at us, and called us damned rogues and tritours, striking us with his Cane, drives us up all into the Tower, swearing deeply hee would make us take it, or hee would make us shit as small as a Rat: Whereupon

But hee was forswo ne, for we shewed him a faire paice of heels,

hee gives command that no bodie bee permitted to come at us to relieve us, either with food or linen, causes an hole to bee made up where things used to be conveyed to us, and confined us to our former allowance, and charge was given upon paine of death, that no more should bee allowed us, or any thing else permitted to come to us, which was accordingly done, for food being sent to us out of the Citie by some, hee caused the Souldiers to take it away, and eat it. Then the Gentlemen and Captaines imprisoned, made a weekly purse for the relieife of the poore prisoners (and

A Lieutenant of Horse,

made a Lieutenant *William Dingly* Steward of it) which if they had not done, I am verie confident, wee should halfe of us have perished. Hee causes this to be restrined, and threatens the Steward to locke him up close Prisoner, if hee did offer to relieve us with Bread or Beere.

Some small time after this, Sir *Iames Peniman* wanting Souldiers, they calling us downe into the yard, and as we passed through the great Chamber, where at least 12. or 14. Gentlemen lodged, and had washed their hands in a Bason of water, such was our extreame drought, that wee could not be restained from drinking it, yea, the verie raine water that was on the Barrels heads that stood in the yard.

There they propounded to us, that if wee would take the Protestation, and take up armes to serve in that armie, wee should presently bee all released. Wee all refused it, with that *Peniman* swore at us, and *Smith* ran after us as fast as his little legs would give him leave, drives us all up againe into the Tower, striking us with his Cane, swearing deepely that hee would make us take it, or hee would make us shit as small as a Rat, and so kept us still to our former allowance.

When

When they had tryed by all these ways of cruelty, they had or could extend to us in the Castle, then they sought by faire meanes to win us, and Sir *James Penimam* and *Smith*, calles us all downe into the yard, and there they argue the case to us, and alleadge the Scripture to us (as the devill did to Christ) but when they saw that by this they could not prevaile with us, they swore most bitterly at us, and Sir *James Penimam* swore God dam me, none of us all did belong to Salvation, but wee were a Company of damned Rogues, Rebells and Traytors: and swore we should bee made to take the protestation, for we should have no Victuals allowed us, saying, they that would not worke should not eate, and so wee were kept without any thing for a day and above: And to extend his Cruelty, & increase our misery, *Smith* causes us on Munday *Feb.* 6. to be removed from the Castle to Bridewell to the Dungeon, where we were above 40 of us put down into it, about foure Weekes thronged, in so little Roome, that wee were scarse able to stirre one by another, the place also being made very noysome, because wee eased our selves in the same, so that in some place of it, we might goe over the shooes in pisse and filth.

But after this 14. were removed out of the Dungeon to an upper chamber so little, that we could but lie down when we went to sleepe. There being never a house of office,

About a Fortnight after, wee had been there: A petition that we had made to the Lord Generall of that army, and a Letter that was written to *London*, setting forth the barbarous usage of us by *Smith*, came out in Print * Whereupon the Generall as wee conceive appointed Commissioners to examine the truth of the things contained in the Letter and petition, and on Munday *Feb.* 22. Six of us, namely, *Edmund Chillender*, *Thomas Chevy*, *Edward Leader* *Edward Bradnty*, *William Whitlowe*, *Ioseph Blisset*, were like Felons and Rogues brought through the Streets in Irons to Sir *Iacob Astleys* where was D. *Reeves* the Kings Advocate, & two other Commissioners, who instead of examining of us, fell a Railing at us, asking us to take the protestation; We Answered we had taken one already which was the King and Parliaments, which we would maintaine to the last drop of our blouds, * but as for this protestation we know not what it is, nor whose Authority it beareth, for we know that the lawes of this Land provide: That no Oath should bee forced on us contrary to consent in parliament, which Laws were our inheritance, and therefore wee would defend and maintaine them as our *proper Rights and Liberties*, and no wayes betray them, or words to this effect: Wee further said that to sweare

* The Letter was printed in my name, which is *Edmund Chillenden*, which *Smith* would have fathered on me, but hee could not prove it. But this Letter and petition netled *Smith*, that he gave the capt. and Gent. a great deale of liberty upon it

* I making this Question, because it was I that spake for all of us. They told mee that I should of all the rest be hanged, saying, you are a peremtoly rogue indeed.

swearе the Earle of *Essex* was a Traytor; or the Army under his conduct was raised against the King; or that the Kings proceedings with his army was good and necessary, or whether the Subjects of *England* were bound, or not bound by the Votes Acts and orders made by the Lords and Commons in parliament, was a high point above our capacities to decide, and therefore desired to be excused from taking that Oath, conceiving that we must not sweare upon doubts and questions, but in judgement, righteousnes and truth. *Smith* he cries out, Harke, harke, they are preaching: we then complained to them of our ill usage, and told them it was the way to starve us, and that a many of us were sicke in the Dungeon, and desired they might bee removed where they might have more Aire, and wee said that wee hoped, that it was not the Kings will, nor the Councell of Wars pleasure, thus to destroy us: But Dr. *Reeves* told us in plain terms, that it was the Kings minde, & Councell of Wars pleasure thus to destroy us, and took his Spectacles and looked on us, and said we looked as fat as Connies, and so we, were sent backe againe to the Dungeon, and those that were sicke grew weaker and weaker: so that one eased nature as he lay, * and another was troubled with continuall Vomitting: those things were grievous to us, they being done in the place where wee all were; when *Smith* came to Bridewell, wee complained to him of it, and desired him that they might be removed where they might have more aire, and have some comfortable thing made; and permitted to come to them, or else they would not live long; he cald us, if we would take the protestation we should have any thing we desired, but if we would not, if wee all died hee did not care, wee were our owne murtherers, and did not permit any thing more to be allowed, save our former Allowance; not any friend, no not our Wives, to come to see us, or any to have our Shirts washed: Nay, hee put the man that dwelt in Bridewell in prison in the Castle, because hee had meat a boyling over the fire, for his own dinner, and all *Smiths* men came and eate up the mans meat, so that by his cruell usage, the afore-named *Giles Carter* ended his daies in great extremity.

We seeing this conceived in our selves if wee stand here, there was no way but of death and perishing; did with one consent resolve our selves of this extreme miserie, so we with our knives, and the hooke of a doore, made a hole through a Freestone wall,

above

* But the Dr. hath forgot his Spectacles would multiply.

* Namely one *Giles Carter*, and *Caleb Selfe*.

above a yard thicke, and so all that were well went forth, which was about 40. whereof 4. were taken againe, and 6. was left sicke in the Dungeon, which 6. (when *Smith* knew the rest were gone) laid in Irons when we were so weake as not able to stirre, and so kept us till Thursday, or Friday, having nothing to comfort us but water; and then we were removed to the Tower in the Castle againe, wherein the roome where we were put, was about 60. men, and a many sicke of the small pox, so that the place was very unwholsome and nasty; and there allowed us one penny bread and a Can of Beere.

I come now to relate to you some other of *Smiths* Tyrannicall and dishonest practises.

When *Marlborow* men were sick. *Smith* gave to one M. *Betteris* a Chyrurgion of *Oxford*, 5.s. to provide some hot and comfortable things for the sicke Prisoners, M. *Betteris* laid out some of the money presently, after this meeting him in the streat demanded his money of him, and threatned him, if he would not give it him, so M. *Betteris* gave him all his 5.s againe; though he had layed out some of it before: This M. *Betteris* did use to come at first into the Castle to dresse the wounded Prisoners, and by that meanes knew the disease of the sick prisoners, did say to some Neighbours of his; that they were spoiled for want of water, and so indeed they were; for we had no water sometimes in two dayes time; *Smith* he heares of this, and meeting with M. *Betteris* put him in prison in the Castle, for so saying; but was within a short time by Sir *Iacob Astley* released out of the prison, but by *Smith* commanded to come no more to dresse the wounded prisoners.

About this time there were some prisoners brought in, which were taken at *Banbury*, and amongst them was one that was wounded in the head with a pole-Ax. *Smith* was by the Gentlemen and Captaines in all the faire wayes, intreated to let a Surgeon to come into dresse him, he would not permit any to come, so that this mans wounds festered and stuncke, and in a short time hee ended his dayes in great extremity.

There also being in the Tower many prisoners, and they having had no water in 20. nay, 48. houres time, knockt for water, Ockdon the Captaines man came and told them hee could help them to none (though the River runne by the doore) they being dry knocked againe, *Smith* came himself, & said I wil give you water, caused

3. or 4. of his men to come arm'd to guard his perſon, and cal'd down one that was my Lord *Saies* Miller, and layes him in Irons Neck and Heeles, and one Sergeant *Walles*, he Canes him at leaſt 60. blowes over the head, wounds him very ſorely, that he hath loſt one of his joynts, and after this layes him in irons 28. pound weight, Neck and Heeles, and ſo keepes him 48 houres in a naſty Dungeon, without bread or water, or any other ſuſtenance; and Caned Lieutenant *Whitehead*, & layed him in Irons: and to colour over his tyranny; commands his men to ſay, they made a mutiny.

There was one Mr. *Freeman* a Conſtable neare *Banbury*, *Smith* cals him to take the Proteſtation, hee refuſes it, *Smith* ſaid, If he would not take it, he ſhould goe up into the Tower: he ſaid, That was the worſt he could do to him. Is it ſayes *Smith*, you damned rogue, & ſtriked him with his Cane, ſwearing bitterly at him, layed him in Irons neck and heels, and ſet him on a cold ſtone in the yard, takes away his coat from him, ſets a ſentinel over him, ſo keeps him 3 or 4 dayes in the winter time, without either bread, water, or any other food. This *Freeman* was alſo removed to the Dungeon in *Bridewell* where he eſcaped to his own houſe, and there was taken againe, and brought into the Caſtle: *Smith* layes him in Irons and ſo he ended his dayes alſo in great miſery.

The ſame day he cal'd down one of *Marlborow* ſouldiers, and offers him the Proteſtation, the youth refuſed it; *Smith* ſweares at him, and beats him with his Cane, layes him necke and heeles in Irons, puts him in a Dungeon, ſet a ſentinell over him, ſo keepes him till he had forced him to take the proteſtation, and allowed no food to be given him.

There was one Mr. *Wierby* a Miniſter, and one M. *Price*, and one Mr. *Selven*, that did refuſe the proteſtation; he ſtrikes them, and breake their heads, makes the blood run downe their eares, and ſends them to the Dungeon in Bridewell.

There was one M. *Edward bradney*, that had a man exchanged for him, yet had not this liberty; *Smith* told him, If he could get 10.l. to pay his Fees, he ſhould have his liberty. Mr *Bradney* got 5.l told *Smith*, I have 4.l. 10.s. *Smith* ſaid he would not take that, ſo M. *Bradney* was putting up his money againe, *Smith* ſnatches his money from him, and ſaid, I will keep this in part of payment, ſo took away foure pound, and kept the man in priſon 6. moneths after; firſt in the Tower, then in the Dungeon in Bridewell, where

hee

he escaped, but was taken again, *Smith* laid him in irons hands and feete, and so keepes him 8. weekes: by reason of this his cruell usage, he fell very weak and sick, and in his sicknesse he would not suffer any body to come to helpe him in his great extremity, so that for three weekes he lay in his owne dung and pisse, and so by a long and languishing disease, being pined to nothing, in a great deale of woe ended his dayes.

There was one *Richard Candle*, and one *Robert Neale*, that escaped out of Bridewell, and were taken againe, he burnt them with match betweene the fingers to the bone, and laid them in irons, hands and feet, suffers no Surgion to come to them, so keeps them 8. weeks, and they both in this extremity ended their dayes in much miserie.

There was one *Andrew* of *London*, who came to *Oxford*, and being brought into prison, *Smith* himselfe tooke 23. s. out of his pocket, and kept him there a short space, and then turning him going, but never gave him his money.

There was one M. *I. A.* the Lord of *Downs* man, brought in for a Spie, he took the protestation, and was by *Smith* released paying 50. s. fees; and he comming into the Castle to see a friend, *Smith* would not let him goe, till he had paid him 50. s. more.

There was one M^r. *Wilde*. a Minister, a malignant, committed to prison, who lay there 7. dayes, and paid *Smith* 3. l. 10. s. for his fees.

There was two *Londoners*, M^r. *C.* M^r. *M.* that took the protestation, that paid *Smith* 20. *l.* for their fees.

There was one *William Burthen* a Constable, that took the protestation, and was by *Smith* released, paying 4. *l.* but he after heard he was a rich man, got him in prison again, and there keepes him to make him pay 60. *l.* more, and did not let him goe, till hee had paid him 20. *l.* more.

There was one M^r. *Ad.* of *London*, prisoner, *Smith* took 5 *l.* 10. shillings, out of his pocket, and never gave it him more.

There was one M^r. *W. B.* a Gentleman, whom the Bishop of *Armath** perswadsd to take the protestation, hee was released paying 20 *l.* fees; *Smith* gets him againe, and keeps him prisoner, till he had made him pay, or give bond for 30. *l.* more.

He also got a bill of exchange for 30. *l.* from Captaine *Wingate*, and Captaine *Austen*, but he hath not yet paid them, though hee hath

* You may see by this that if there be a villany to be done, a Bishop is at hand to act it.

hath been often asked for it, and Captaine *Auſton* asking him for it, *Smith* gave him very opprobious words, calling him ſhirten Prentice boy, and threatned to lay him in Irons, neck and heels.

There was one Dr. *Claiton*, Doctor of Divinitie of *Walemſtow* in *Eſſex* (as he himſelf ſaid) who was taken at *Brancester*, and carried to *Oxford* priſon, who lying there in great miſerie, did endeavour to make an eſcape, and getting over a wall, fell downe and broke his neck.

Captain *John Lilburne*, he kept him in Irons 18. or 19. dayes, and ſince he being very ſick, even to death, yet would not permit any woman to come to look to him in his ſickneſſe.

Captaine *John Frankling*, and Maſter *John brown* Gentleman, he ironed together, and ſo keept him a good while, and ſince Captaine *Iohn Frankling* is dead.

Maſter *William Dingly*, a Lieutenant of Horſe, he laid him in Irons, and ſo kept him 8 or 9. weekes. He kept one Maſter *Andrew Ellis* (one of my Lords Generalls Life Guard, a Gentleman of the Innes of Court) in the Tower amongſt the Common priſoners, and made him to ly on the Boards.

Maſter *John Frankling* Member of the Houſe of Commons, he hath moſt baſely abuſed, and called him Rogue and damn'd Traytor, yea ſtinking fellow, and took him by the ſhouldiers, and thurſt him into a little chamber, ſaying to him, you are a damn'd Traytor, and I will uſe you like a Traytor; locks him up priſoner, and gives the key to one *Bradſhaw* that was a Cavalier in priſon, and *Smith* on purpoſe ſet on this *Bradſhaw* and one Captaine *Crew*, one of the Cavaliers, an Iriſh papiſt, to drinke healths and carrouſes in the roome with M. *Frankling*, to abuſe and torment him, * and hath ever ſince kept him cloſe priſoner. And Captaine *Walton*, Captaine *Iohn Lilburne*, Captaine *Vivers*, Captaine, *Cateſby*, Captaine *Scroope* Captaine *Auſton*, Captaine *Lidcot*, he hath kept them all cloſe Priſoners for the moſt part of their time, and ſeldome would permit their friends to come viſit them, no nor their wives to ſee them

This *Bradſhaw* being ſicke did confeſſe.

Yea, he hath taken away the beds from the Captaines, and made them lye on the cords, and againſt their wills placed ſome of the Cavaliers in them.

As for Captaine *Wingate*, he hath alwayes kept him close prisoner alone, without any company, not suffering him to conferre neither with men nor bookes, nor yet permit him to have a Bible, onely when *Blage* was hanged, Master *Harfield* Minister of *Banburie*, and hee was in one Chamber, and *Smith* had layed this reverend Minister in irons hands and feete, and after that *Blage* was dead, brought his body and threw it into the Roome where Captaine *Wingate* and the Minister was and so locked them up all three close up prisoners, and many times *Smith* hath kept those that have died so long till they have stuncke, like to poison them, nor would not carie them away, till the prisoners were constrained to pay for their buriall. Hee would not suffer Captaine *Wingate* to walke in the Garden for his health sake, notwithstanding the Kings minde was that he should, as he hath beene in my hearing declared by the Lord *Craford*.

As for Captaine *Clifton*, *Catsby*, and Captaine *Vivers*, they being in *Banburie*, his Majestie was pleased by his Herauld of Armes, to declare, that if they would come and yeeld themselves to Him, they should have a free pardon, the which they did, and had also the Lord Generalls word, on his honour to confirme the same: Yet after they were brought to *Oxford* Prison, and by *Smith* kept there, & were before the Lord chief Iustice *Heath*, one *Oyer*, and *Terminer* arraigned for their lives. Whereupon they both of them made a pitition, declaring his Majesties act passed to them, which acknowledged by the Generall, as plainly appeares by the answere of the Petition, * and thereupon order was given, they should bee releasd, yet notwithstanding *Smith* kept them in close prison, and by his ill usuage, Captaine *Catesby* is since dead, and Captaine *Vivers* hath beene almost at deathes doore, and is yet prisoner: Therefore it behoves the King and the Generall to vindicate their Honour by the executing justice on *Smith*, for thus grosely abusing the King and the Generall.

Hee hath kept manie in prisoners (after they have been pardoned by the King and have taken the protestation) for their excessive Fees.

But to let all the world see hee is a Knave in all respects, and to all person, friends; and foes, hee hired a Priest to preach in the prison, and this Priest was as base as *Smith* himselfe, and would

* The petition I have seen with the Answer, but as yet cannot procure the Copy of it. He would not release Captain *Catsbey*, because he would not pay him 200, pounds for his fee, and so also he did by *Mr. Harfield*, Minister of Banbury, and so by Captaine *Vivers*. I do not believe any of them committed any fault, deserving any pardon, but this I say according to their proceedings.

By this it is cleare that the parliament is not the least mistaken, in saying, the King is kept and invirond in by Rogues, Knaves, and Thieves.

would raile against the Parliament and the Citie of *London*, as loud as *Smith*, yet when this priest came to demand his quarterage of *Smith*, he to save his money, and deprive the Priest, of his due, calles him all to naught, and sayes to him, You raile against the Parliament, you shall have quartering, and so claps irons on the poor priest, that he was glad to loose his money to be rid of his irons, & so he serves all his men, when they aske him for money. Now let all the world judge whether it be for a Kings honour to have such Officers.

And further to set out his base dissimulation when the Commissioners from the Parliament are in *Oxford*, then to make the matter faire as if he were a stranger to a Tyrant, he will let the Gentlemen and Captaines have liberty to walke in the Garden, and suffers their friends and wives to come to them but, as soone as ever they are gone forth of the city, he locks them up close Prisoners, and debars all friends, yea, their own wives, and though they bee sicke, will not suffer them to come to helpe them in their extremity, nor no Phisitians, but whom he wil appoint, which for ought any knowes, may poison them, for in a short time there hath died of these Gentlemen Captain, *Lidcot*, Captaine *Fleming*, Captaine *John Frankling*, Captaine *Gasterill*, Captaine *Stevens*, *Iunior*, Captaine *Stevens Senior*, Captaine *Plaier*, Captaine *Allestine*, Captaine *Caseby*, Lieutenant, *Flower*, Master *Witman*, Merchant of *London*, Master *Herfield* Minister of *Banburie*, old *Thomas Web*, and three more Clothiers of *Glocestershire*, and foure more common men, which are before mentioned.

There was a Clothier of *Glocestershire*, which was released, *Smith* got him againe, and kept him in prison to make him pay a great summe of money, and there the man ended his dayes.

A TRVE

RELATION

of the taking of Cirencester, *and the cruell dealing of the mercilesse Cavaliers towards the prisoners they there tooke in their passage, as they went to* Oxon *and at* Oxon.

VPon *Thursday* the second of *February* 1642, Prince *Rupert* with a great company of his Cavaliers, came before *Cirencester*, and there after an hot Skirmish, they being valiantly resisted by 400. of my Lord *Stamfords Blew Coats*, and Captaine *Wallingfords* Dragooners there being in the town not above 500. Souldiers, with the Trained Bands and all, yet such was the cruelty of the Cavaliers, seeing my Lord *Stamfords* Blew-coats thus valiantly resisting them, and in their resisting, slew many of them, so that thereby they were much enraged insomuch that they set on fire a Barn, and some houses, and Hay Ricks, which did much anoy our men, who had overtoiled themselves with resisting them, not being relieved by the trained Bands which were in the town, and by this means were forced to retreat into the town, the Cavaliers pursuing them, and so surprized the towne, and after they had given them Quarter, because they had slaine none, before they murthered many of the inhabitants, about twenty persons or more * and most of them were Malignants against the Parliament.

After they had thus taken us, we were led into a field about halfe a mile from the town, where the chief Commanders were, that they might take a view of us, who threatned to do execution upon us all, & there the common Souldiers stript us and wounded many of us, and then drove us back to the Church in *Cirencester*, where we remained almost two whole daies, and two nights in all, which time they allowed us no sustenance wherewithall to live, till just as they drove us towards *Oxford*, they gave each of us

* Let all Malignants take notice, that notwithstanding they love them and their Cause, yet where they get the victorie, they will make no difference betweene a Malignant and an honest Round-head.

us a ſmall piece of bread and cheeſe, and then bound us all with match, and ſo drove us all along without ſtockings on our legs, ſhooes on our feete, or hats on our heads, many of us having no Dublets, and ſome Gentlemen of good qualitie without breeches, and ſo we came to *Burford* hill, where the Calvaliers gave each of us a little piece of bread; which was all the reliefe they gave us in our way between *Cirencester* and *Oxon*, and for this we waited a long time upon the hill, the winde blowing very cold, and we ſtanding bareſoote and bareleg'd in the ſnow. Then wee came to *Witnigh* where wee lay in the Church, and from thence were driven towards *Oxon* and about a mile from the citie, His Mejeſtie with the Prince and the Duke of *Yorke*, came to ſee us drove along more like dogs and horſes then men, up to the knees in mire and dirt, along the horſe way, and aboundance of the Scollers much rejoycing at our miſerie, calling and abuſing us by the names of damned rogues, and traitours. And when we came to *Oxon*, wee were put all together in the Church, and there wee received for the moſt part of us, a piece of bread that night, the next morning they ſeparated the voluntiers from the trained bands, and cruelly uſed us to force us all to take the proteſtation, and take up Armes for them againſt the Parliament, for they allowed us but one ſmall piece of bread, and a can of beere a day, and would not allow us to have a draught of water to drinke, wee offering to pay money for it, yet wee could not obtaine it: By which cruell uſuage they forced the moſt of them to take the Proteſtation, that of 1100. and 66. priſoners, there was but 16 that refuſed it, that they had ſcraped about the Countrey for, for they brought old Almes men, about three or foure ſcore yeares old, and lame Cripples from their mothers wombe, blinde men, and all to make up the number of a great many priſoners, they not onely forcing them to take the Proteſtation, but afterwards fined them beyond their eſtates, and drove them to other deſperat courſes, ſo that one cut his throat, he not dying preſently, was asked the reaſon why he did ſo, he anſwered, hee was ſo hungry that the devil tempted him to cut his throat to bee out of his miſerie: And diverſe others of them fell weake and ſicke, and were ſent to Bridwell, where they died two or three in a day, and one man drawing

one

on towards his end, I and *Edward Leader*, and another, had opportunitie to speak unto him, and we asked him, what he thought of his last end? he said unto us, and fetched a great sigh, he could have both said and thinked more if he had refused the Protestation, and kept close to Christ, and so departed. Whilest they continue in the Churches, we that were in the dungeon hearing that they wanted bread, gathered 7 shillings amongst us, and gave it the woman of *Bridewell* to lay out in bread for them, which she accordingly did, and went to the Church to give it them: but such was *Smiths* cruelty, as that he would not permit it to bee given them, so it was returned to us againe, and those of them that refused to take the protestation, he beat and abused, tying some of them neck and heels, and others he sent to the Dungeon, others he brought into the Castle, where we were made to stand in the cold yard all the first day in the snow then at night we were put into the Hall where we continued 3 or 4 dayes, without receiving any allowance from them, whereupon we asked Captaine *Smith* for some allowance, he then giveth us biter words and swore at us, bid his men give us so much bread as he would, give a dog a day, and for water let them lap in the yard and be hanged or pox't for a company of damn'd rogus, dogs, or to this effect.

Then after two or three daies; he allowed us halfe a penny loafe a day, but we had no water to drinke in two dayes together. Then wee were put up into the Tower, and there wee were allowed a penny a day in bread and a can of beere, which was the best allowance that ever wee received from them, lying for the space of 15. weekes on the boards; and by reason of this hard usuage many of us fell sick, which drove us to call from the Tower for more relefe: whereupon he strikes two of us with his Cane over the head, and layes us neckes and heels in Irones and kept their allowance from: and since the Parliament hath sent downe 100 *l* for the relefe of the poore Prisoners, he hath even since kept away the Kings allowance from us.

The copy of a Letter, written from the Caſtle at Oxon, *by a Gentleman in priſon there, confirming the former particulars.*

Noble Sir,

I Cannot but take ſpeciall notice of your reſpects manifeſted unto my ſelf, and all the reſt of the Gentlemen my fellow-priſoners, in ſo kindly writting unto us, & ſending to ſee how it faires with us, which, true it is, there came once a Trumpeter of Captaine *Lidcots*, about the exchange of his maſter for another, and for his paines he was clapt up Priſoner with his Maſter, and kept there by Captain *Smith*, till ſuch time as he could conforme unto Captaine *Smiths* will and pleaſure, and take a new proteſtation, and ſerve in the Army, which is called the Kings; and his Captain hath heere ſince with five more, in 14 dayes, ended his dayes in a great deale of miſery and woe. In the laſt letter which I have ſeen, though the Bearer was not permitted to come into us, you let us underſtand of that courteous and noble uſuage the Gentlemen that are priſoners with you finde at your hands, and you tell us, that you are ſorry to heare of our hard uſuage, which you hope is not ſo bad as the report goes: Truely let me ſay thus much in briefe, from my very ſoul I doe believe, that the Barbariouſnes inflicted upon the poore Gally ſlaves in *Turky*, cannot parallell thoſe inhumane cruelties, which abundance of poore men have undergon from the hands of *Smith* himſelfe: the full particular riſing of which I am confident will fill divers hundred ſheets of paper, to make a ſecond book of Martyrs, with more ſadder Stories then are to be found in Queene *Maries* cruelties: A little touch of ſome part of which you may read in the Relation of one Maſter *Weirlay* that broke priſon

priſon here, and in the letters that divers others put out in Print (*b*) and a little more of which, you will heare in the Relation of one Mr. *Chillenden*, who with 18. more broke Priſon here foure nights agoe, for I believe that he will make a declaration to the world. We have from time to time complained to our friends at *London*, which have hitherto hoped that Letters from the Gentlemen to the Court, of the good uſuage of the priſoners with them, would have prevailed with his Majeſtie and the Generall here, to purchaſe the like for us: but alas it is in vain. We have petitioned His Majeſtie and the Generall, and Articled againſt *Smith*, for trancendent cruelties but we never could have hearing by reaſon of potency of his friends, and thoſe damnable oaths that he hath ſwore againſt us, to which there is no more credit to be given, then to the devil, and thoſe wicked lies that he hath told, and thoſe, falſe reports that he hath raiſed no us, and filled the Court full of ſtrange and unheard of matters, that never entred into our hearts to think of, much leſſe to plot; and thoſe be his uſuall practiſes and evaſions when wee complaine of him, ſo that our ſtrugling and complaining hath done us rather more hurt then good, becauſe our friends in Parliament hath not taken the right courſe to deale with their Priſoners, as we have been dealt with; which if they had, they themſelves, I am confident, would long ere this, by their importunate deſires and informations to His Majeſtie, have eaſed us of *Smith*, and purchaſed more liberty for us, ſo that this is our laſt refuge that we have to betake us to, to preſſe our friends immediatly to get all their priſoners of quality clapt up cloſe priſoners as we are, and uſed in ſome reaſonable proportion to what we are heare, and if this be not ſpeedily done, I doe verily believe, they will ſcarce ſee the face of one man in ten of us for ſo neer as I can judge. *Smith* more then Pagan like cruelty hath

The priſoners report.

(*b*) In a Letter intituled a true Relation of the uſuage of the priſoners at *Oxon*

already murthered above 40. men, yea, above 60. men in this house, the blood of all which he is guilty of for his starving, beating fettering, clapping head and heels together, close imprisoning, and other bad usuage, hath already brought the plague amongst us, and two poore men in the Towne lie sick of the plague sores, as the Chyrurgeon, avers: yet in this great extremity, will not let the heavy hearted wife come relieve and nourish her sick and distressed husband: yea he hath clapt a Chyrurgeon, in Prison for comming to dresse the stinking putrified sores of the wounded and diseased; yea, and the poore people that dressed our diet, and washed our linen are not permitted to come to us, yea and though Captaine *Scroope* a gentleman of quality be very sicke, yet will he not suffer his Apothecary to come to administer any thing to him.

But the saddest story of all the rest in this house, might be made of one Mr. *Edward Bredneys* sufferings, who was an honest *Warwickshir*man, who hath laid a long time in languishing death; first in this Castle, then at Bridewell; & almost ever since they broke prison there, in fetters of Iron; who died yesterday, when all the Gentlemen in the house, neither for love nor money could not intreat *Smith* nor his Lieutenant (who is grown as bad as himself) to let us have for our money, any poore woman to look unto him, so that he was forced for 3. weekes together to ly in his own dung & pisse, and never was made clean all that time, but once, as those that were neerest unto him have for certainty informed me, so that they that lay in the Room with him, and next unto him, have beene almost poisoned with stinck by him, yea, though the poore prisoners, many of them be almost spent in watching with their fellow dying prisoners, yet the inhumane Lieutenant the other night threw stones in at the windows in a Roome where foure lay sick, because the poor watchmen had but a faggot burning to refresh them, and a Candle burning to see to give them drinke, and such things as they had for them.

Oxon Castle May 26. 1643. *I rest your servant.*

THE

TRVE COPIE

Of a Petition and Articles, which the Captaines and Gentlemen in prison, preferred to his Majesties privie Councel, Commissioners, and Councel of war against *Smith*.

To the Honourable the Lords of his Majesties most Honourable Privie Councel, the Commissioners, and the Councel of Warre assembled in Oxon.

The humble Petition of some prisoners in the Castle at *Oxon*, whose names are hereunto subscribed

Sheweth,

THat we presume not from any forgetfulnesse of our sad condition being prisoner under his Majesties high displeasure, and inseparable consequents therewith, which in all humilitie, and sense of sorrow we both apprehend and submit unto, or out of any unquietnesse of disposition to encrease trouble to your Lordships, to interrupt your great affaires, which we most humbly crave pardon for: But the long and still daily ill entreaty (we all receive under our Keeper the Provost Marshall General Captaine Smith) is so exorbitant, and intollerable, as upon the reputation of Gentlemen: We professe that a faire passage out of this world will be far more welcome unto us then such a life. A particular of some of his actions wee all in humblenesse as your Lordships shall vouchsafe to signifie your pleasures) desires to present unto your Lordships to take them and us unto your grave consideration, and to shew your petitioners such favour as relief therein, as your Lordships shall thinke meet.

And we shall daily pray, &c.

Some particulars of Captaine Smith, *his cariage towards his Prisoners.*

1. THat we are many of us close prisoners, and some in irons, and other Gentle-men in the Tower amongst the common prisoners, and have been strucke by Captaine *Smith*.

2. That wee are by him lock't up in our chambers, and debarred the use of Pen, Inke, and Paper, and the Convers with any, having Sentinels set at our Chamber doores, some of us denied the comfort of speaking with such as come from, and returne unto our wives and deareſt friends.

3. That we have suffered much for necessaries; and many of us are lousie.

4. That hee doth frequently reproach and provoke us with very base language, calling Sir *William Essex* old doting foole, and asse, and swore that he would lay him head and heeles together, that he hath suddenly in great rage, come unto the Captaines and Officers in the presence of divers strangers, and his owne servants, no offence that we know being given, or by him expressed, and swore that he would lay the proudeſt of us neck and heeles, and that he spake it to them all in generall, or to any of them in particular; and challenged them now or at any time hereafter, if they were at libertie, to justifie it upon them, that he hath called some of the Captaines boyes, and other Gentlemen, Iackanapes, Rascals, and fooles, and that he would whip their arses, and lay them in irons in the Tower.

5. That when his prisoners have had no relieſe in 24. houres, and have earnestly begged for water and hath with all possible respect been desired thereunto, he hath violently fallen upon them, knocking of them downe, and beating of them, in as much as some of their limbes are likely to be lost thereby, calliug them Curs, and protesting that he respect dogs more then they: some of them being Officers, and after such beating, being cast unto irons head and heeles, all night, for no other cause, then for asking a little water in such extremitie, for want whereof they have been in such necessitie, that they have been constrained to drinke their own Vrine.

6. That he (as we humbly conceive) for his own private respects most

most injuriously, charges his prisoners with plots and conspiracies, and hath taken great summes of money of them for Fees, and detained some of them in great extremitie, even to the prejudice of their lives, onely for unlimitted Fees, unto their utter undoing.

7. That whereas his Majestie out of his great mercie is most graciously pleased to allow his poor prisoners 6. pence a man *per diem*, yet they received hereof but 5. farthings a day, whereby many of them had beene starved, had it not beene for relieſe of some other prisoners, who made collection for them: and that Captaine *Smith* his servant *Rich*, hath gained 2. s. out of every five thus collected, for the relieſe of the poore prisoners, and the said *Rich*. by the allowance of his Master, selleth Beere at an excessive rate; to wit that in a Kilderkin of 5. shillings, he hath gained 6. or 7. shillings.

8. That Captaine *Smith* as he said came with an expresse command from the King to some of his prisoners, and told that his Majestie himselfe commanded him that the Gentlemen should have onely bread and water untill they had paid M^r. *Fishers* bill of 150. pounds or there about, a bill that hath caused much difference betweene M^r. *Fisher*, and Captaine *Smith*, consisting of Captaine *Smith* his Servants of 7 pounds spent by him in vain; a bill of the deit of the servants and prisoners, when sometimes they were in number, 60, 70, or 80, one day more, another lesse, which made it a confused bill and reckning; and did not it all as we humbly conceived concerne any of us; wee having agreed, and Captaine *Smith* promised that we should have a 12 penny ordinary, which we never refused, but was alwayes ready to pay those that had money, and the rest to give the best assurance they could for it, and because this 150. pound was not presently paid by some few of them, they were locked up close prisoners, and sentinels set in their Chamber doors to see that they received nothing but bread and water, which Captain *Smith* swore was the Kings expresse command, but he said he would allow them bread and beere.

This pitition was exhibited about Allhollantide, 1642. *but by reason of the potencie of his friendes, we could never have any hearing, though since that time we have preferred many other pititions.*

Here

HEre you may see a glimse of *Smiths* tyranny, but to repeate all his cruelties, with his cozening, and cheatings, and the circumstances about him, would a make vollume of many sheers of paper: but by this all the world may see how the King is wounded in his honour by such base *Egyptians*, that care for nothing, but their own base and by-ends; therefore those great friends of *Smith* that have bore him up, & stayed the prisoners off from being heard in their just and lawfull requests, whereby they might have beene righted, and *Smith* have received justice according to his demerits, may be ashamed to posses the King, and say they are his friends, when indeed they are his utter and onely enemies, that doe all they can to staine him in his Iustice and honours: Therefore I hope that now they will see their errour, and the King, and Lord Generall of that armie will vindicate their honours by doing justice on *Smith*; which if they doe not, it will lye as a blot on them to all posteritie, and if his Majestie please to grant to me and other witnesses against *Smith*, his safe conduct and protection, I will prove to him as I have already here, all these particulars upon oath, *Viva voce*, and many more.

For since Captaine *Wingates*, that honourable and faithfull Gentlemans escape, about it *Smith* was in trouble, but was no sooner restored again to his place, but he again begins to play the tyrant, he & his Lieutenant falls upon some of the gentlemen, and wounds them, likely to kill one Lieutenant *Fuller*, and after that lay him necke and heeles in irons; and another Captaine he wounds him sorely, and puts him up into the Tower, and locks all the rest close prisoners, and swears that he will lay Captaine *Lilburne* in irons, because hee did looke out of his chamber window, he having been sicke to take the aire: because hee saw him play thus the tyrant, and thus by his usuall practises, that men were better bee out of their lives, then come to be under his custodie: Therefore I hope all the men of our armie will fight it out to the last, and not suffer themselves to bee taken, but rather die like men and brave Souldiers, then to be by him starved and stinkt to death.

It will now bee looked for, that I should relate the manner of Captaine *Wingats*, and mine own escape; Thus much in briefe that God in his due time was good to him and me, and to many more,

all

all the while hee and I was under this miſerie, to ſupprt us by his ſtrength, and alſo by his wiſedome and Power at laſt, perfectly to deliver us: But to relate the particular remarkable providences of God to Captaine *Windgate*, and to my ſelfe and the reſt that did eſcape, would be too tedious; but this we ſay, and we ſpeake the truth, God alſo bearing us witneſſe, that we do not lie, that by many hard and difficult waies we eſcaped, God going along with us apparently, which Captaine *Wingate* deſires and my ſelfe alſo; and and all the reſt that did eſcape, that the ſole and onely Honour, Glory, and praiſe, may be given to God,

And ſo deſires your Friends and poore Brethren in the defence of the Houſe, to the laſt droppe of their bloud.

EDMUND CHILLENDEN.

Thomas Cheny.
Edward Leader.
William Gough.
William Whitelow.
Thomas Chamberlane.
William Briant.

All ſworne before the Lords aſſembled in Parliament.

Joſeph Bliſet.
Daniel Aſhton.
Chriſtopher Weeket.
John Allen.

Witneſſes not ſworne.

TO THE
HONOVRABLE
VVILLIAM LENTALL
Speaker of the Honourable Houſe of Commons.

Noble Sir,

THe grievous burden of miſerable thraldome, which we in captivity now groane under, preſents it ſelf to your ſelfe, to your ſerious conſideration, relying on your favour & compaſsion for ſpeedie redreſſe: we had not thought that ever we who have adventured our lives and Fortunes, to maintain and preſerve the true proteſtant Religion his Majeſties Perſon, and juſt Prerogative, the lawful Liberty of the Subject, & the juſt Priviledges of *Parliament*, ſhould be ſoone obliterated out of your memory, & left to the more then pagan uſage of Tyrannicall and mercileſſe men; we are not onely deprived of the ſociety of our friends, of pen, inke, & paper, but what we have by ſtealth, wherby we might acquaint ſome of our charitable friends of our languiſhing condition: but we have no allowance from his Majeſty, ever ſince we came in, and but ſmall allowance from the Members of the Houſe of *Parliament* here with us, becauſe they cannot get the money in the Towne, nor if they could get it, will *Smith* the Marſhall Generall ſuffer it to be brought into them: ſo that we are bereaved of almoſt all the meanes of livelihod, for when we have been ready to faint for want of water, to ſatisfie our Languiſhing thirſt, having not a penny to buy us beere, the ſaid *Smith* hath taken the keyes from his man, who was about to fetch us the water, layde him in irons, vexing him very much, for that hee aſſayed to doe us that cour-

courteſie, afterwards took off his cloaths, & turned him out of doors. And when ſome have asked him, whether his Majeſty allowed us any thing as priſoners, he hath after a moſt ignominious manner reviled us, giving us no better termes then Rebels, traytours, and Parliamentary Rogues, ſaying, Eate ſtones ye Round-head rogues, and be hanged, in like maner, threatning all of us that will not take their ſoul condemning Proteſtation, to take up Armes and joyne with them againſt the moſt Honourable Court of *Parliament*, and my loving Generall his Excellency; and likewiſe goe to erect their Bulwarks, which if any refuſe to doe, he is immediately caſt unto the Dungeon, laid necke and heeles together, with bolts of five and thirty pound, permitting none to adminiſter him any comfort (which cruelty with abundance of menacing words having no hope of any intermiſsion of this inſupportable burden of miſery, hath ſtruck ſuch terrour in the hearts of many of the priſoners, that they have taken their proteſtatiō, & engaged themſelves to ſerve as afore, which hath coſt many poore priſoners their lives, whoſe bloud will one day be inquired after, at the hands of thoſe who were the efficient cauſers thereof; yea, even the Parliament men themſelves here with us, have been ſo reſtrained of their liberties, that they have been lockt up, and confined to ſtay in their chambers for three or foure dayes together, and not ſuffered to have any communication with the other captaines their fellow Priſoners, neither have had Meat, Drinke or water, but what hath been conveyed to them by ſtealth, and have been inforced to eaſe nature and throw it out of their Windowes; and all this becauſe they have endeavoured for relieve by meanes whereof Maſter *Francklyn* a Parliament man, lies now a dying. And that which more augments our grievances is, that we are not onely confined to lye on the bare boards, on the Tables, under the

Tables, on the Chymneyes hearth, nay on the very ſtayres, and ſometimes on the top one of another, whereby is bred ſuch a noyſome ſtinke, that infecteth very many with the peſtilent Feavour, and other very dangerous diſeaſes, there being at this inſtant of time, about twenty perſons infected amongſt us, and in our judgment paſt recovery: the diſeaſe being ſo violent that it quite bereaveth them of their ſenſes: In this deplorable condition we beſeech you thinke on ſome meanes to revive our dying, nay almoſt dead ſpirits, that we may once againe injoy our Freedome which we have been ſo long time bereaved of, or take ſome courſe with the beſt of them which you have priſoners with you to keep them ſhort, and barre them of their Liberty as we are, to the end that they may with more earneſtneſſe ſollicite their Friends and negotiate to procure their inlargements by exchanging of us; for wee are credibly informed, and doe believe it to be true, that they have ſo much Libertie and Favour at *London*, and elſewhere, that they need not care much for their impriſonmẽt. In a word if we are not ſpeedily exchanged, or ſome courſe taken for our better uſage which now is inſufferable: many amongſt us we feare will change themſelves from being our Friends, and become our enemies, and be as active in tyrannizing over us, as any that have been forced to apoſtatize from us; wee beſeech God ſo to direct the powers of your minde, that you may with all ſedulity importune and direct in our behalfe to the moſt Honourable Court of Parliament, and then we doubt not, but God will bleſſe you and our Endeavours to whoſe protection we commend you and remaine

Your humble Servant, though diſtreſſed captives.

From our extraordinarie cruell bondage in *Oxford* Caſtle, this 19. of *July* 1643.

The

The names of the Priſoners.

Hvmphrey Morgon.
William Andrewet.
Thomas Fipps.
Timoth Code.
Faulkt Greffes.
Robert Crage.
Io. Geuton.
Iohn Gleed.
Si. Richards.
Iohn Burkhill.
Iames Clerring.
Richard Bradſhaw.
Edward Parricke.
Thomas Wells.
Io Williams.
Humphrey Libbes.
Thomas Dungeon.
Thomas Gibbs.
William King.
Iohn Gell.
Maurice Mocor.
William Wood.
Richard Symons.
Ioſeph Ratchyffe.
Iohn Walter.
Ioſeph Amye.
Ioſeph Ruſhaley.
Iohn Adler.
Iohn Gelcot.
Chriſtopher Fowler.
Richard Mixon.
Nathaniel Smith.
Richard Frith.
Iohn Overton.
Richard Weauright.
William Beanes.
Thomas Hartwell.
Edward Keepe.
William Elkoanley.
William Aſhley.
Robert Chilae.
Io. Read.
Clements Prat.
Iohn Shaw.
George Sharpe.
Cha. Smith.
Richard Smith.
William Croley.
Edward Huggons.
Richard VVhitehead Lievtenant.
Roger Cotrell Lievtenant.
Io. Reeve Serg. to the Earle of Stamford.
Henrie Fithert.
Edward Fitzherbert.
Iames cragford.
Andrew Poſt Quartermaſter.

Maurice Iames.
Authur Rose.
Scapcot Perdee.
George Rose.
Robert Holly.
Iohn wilye.
Nathaniel Cambridge.
VVilliam Hawkes.
Iohn Butchins.
Iohn Crage.
Ienkyn Price.
VVilliam Hughes.

With many others that are so sicke, that they are not able to subscribe.

M^r. *Francklyn* is since the penning of this, is dead by *Smiths* cruelty.

FINIS.

A POSTSCRIPT

SOme things more which I here adde, as his seizing one Master Fishers-house, *claping him prisoner in the Tower, almost starving him, afterwards ceasing on his goods, turning him, his wife, and family out of doores, and also ceasing one Doctor* Gardens *house, and turning Mistris* Garden *into the street, after he had beat and pinched her, and most basely abused her: Neither have I set forth his pedegree, and what hath been his manner of life, which hath alwayes been base enough, as appeares by the estimony of one Mrs.* House *of* Chichester *where this* Smith *with his Family did lye about a yeare, who to get into Favour dissembled himself a Puritan, and must needs have a Minister sent for to satisfie his troubled Conscience, and when his dissembledneſſe could no longer be hid he railed on them, and went away not paying them a farthing, this hath been his continuall course to live by threatning and cuzning. Therfore I desire the State would be pleased to take into their consideration, the miserie that poore honest men are like to suffer under hand, and to keepe all the common prisoners they take to exchange them for our common men, which they never let free, but alwayes keepe, and doe much abuse them. These things I have written to let all the world see and know the truth, which if they will not yet beleeve, I wish they had seen and felt it as much as I. And whereas some men say, their prisoners here, suffer as much, I deny it, because I have been in prisons both here in* London, *and at* Windsor, *and finde it is altogether false, whatsoever Malignants reports.*